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Group 3700IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
JOHN A. BECKMAN

Serial No. 09/025,531

Filed: February 18, 1998

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING
A VEHICLE FRAME ASSEMBLY
INCLUDING HYDROFORMED SIDE

05/15/2000 NCHAPMAN 09/025,531
01 FC:103 126.00 CH

INTEGRALLY
FORMED MOUNTING AREAS

Group Art Unit 3726

Examiner Trinh Nguyen

Attorney Docket 1-5119

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Rewrite Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for manufacturing a vehicle frame assembly comprising the steps of:

(a) hydroforming a first side rail so as to have an integrally formed mounting structure;